

Spouses find personal, professional opportunities at USAWC

By Public Affairs Staff 22 August 2017



Christina Daily, director of the Military Family Program, introduces USAWC spouses to the Military Family Program during a welcome event July 10. The Military Family Program offers courses to promote personal, professional and family growth, and complements the experience of the war college class.

The MFP Dress for Success workshop, presented by Rita Gworek, is one of the more popular professional development offerings. Dress for Success, Aug 24, offered guidance to students and spouses alike about wardrobe selections appropriate to business or professional attire.

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Spouses of Army War College resident students are able to take a series of war college courses and workshops designed to promote personal, professional and family growth, and to complement the experience of their spouse in the war college class. The key to the Military Family Program is the ability to pick and choose classes and workshops, build a personal program, and benefit from war college education.

The Army War College sponsors the Military Family Program to enhance family members' Carlisle experience with graduate-level educational opportunities, some of which mirror selected war college classes. Interested spouses can elect to take classes with personal or family benefit, such as those about financing college, or understanding the challenges of elderly parents. Other courses offer skills for professional responsibilities in the workforce or in military settings as a member of a command team or in volunteer organizations. Examples are the negotiations workshop, the Senior Spouse Leader Seminar, and the

Myers-Briggs Type Indicator class on interpreting MBTI results.

“The Executive Spouse Leadership Development Course is an opportunity for spouses who want to take it to the next level,” said Christine Daily, MFP Director. “They can actually individualize their learning experience while they’re here.”

The Executive Spouse Leadership Development Program offers a series of one hour of classes scheduled across the academic year. Spouses earn a U.S. Army War College certificate upon completion of three foundation courses and six elective classes. Foundation courses are workshops in Facilitating Leadership and Group Skills (FLAGS), Protocol, and Public Speaking workshops (each offered more than once during the year). Electives are selected by each spouse from a list that addresses social media best practices, spouse employment transition, marriage seminar, mindfulness training, college financial planning and a 3-part financial planning series.

The Facilitating Leadership and Group Skills workshop is a one-week workshop to hone personal skills as a group leader; the workshop is for and by students who exercise their own skills while guiding development of others. FLAGS is offered only at the Army War College, designed as an opportunity for senior spouses to develop as strategic thinkers and problem solvers through activities designed to improve self-awareness, communication skills, and decision-making. FLAGS participants develop and enhance skills through a combination of classroom experience, self-assessment instruments and small group activities.

A strength of the MFP is the opportunity for strategic discussions with other spouses, sharing different experiences and anticipating future experiences, said Dailey.

“This is something the War College felt was important for students’ spouses to provide graduate level educational opportunities for the spouses to help develop that strategic team,” said Dailey. “They’re exposed to some of the same materials the resident students are. It helps with conversation and teambuilding within their units or family units.”

Dailey’s office is in Root Hall but she is more easily contacted by email, phone or facebook: christina.l.daily.civ@mail.mil, 717-245-4784, <https://www.facebook.com/militaryfamilyprogram>.

Find the full array of program offerings on the MFP website, which accepts registration: <http://www.armywarcollege.edu/orgs/mfp/>

